

NeSA-Writing

ENE133

2012

GRADE 8

Writing

Scoring Guide

Writing Topic

2012

Think about a place that you know well that is interesting to you. It could be inside or outside, small and personal or large and busy.

What sights, sounds, tastes, textures or feelings come to mind as you think about this place?

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader would be able to picture it and know why you chose it.

Ideas / Content

A Road in Connecticut

During the summer after fourth grade, I traveled to the most interesting place I'd ever been. No, I did not go on any spectacular adventure to an exotic, faraway country. My family and I took a long flight to Connecticut to visit my aunt. The moment I left that bustling airport on the road to my aunt's house out of town, I knew I loved it there.

The scenery there was breath taking. For miles and miles, a lush deciduous forest stretched as far as the human eye could see. The thick brown trunks reached into the sky higher than any tree I'd ever seen in my life. Pure sunlight filtered through the canopy of startlingly green leaves in a beautiful, dancing array of yellow-gold light. Occasionally, I caught a glimpse of clear blue sky with not a single cloud in sight. A light breeze could be seen rippling through the leaves.

The winding road that took us through this wondrous spectacle was a gently curving and quiet road so unlike that of city streets. There were very few buildings in the area. Most were small houses that were usually accompanied by a bright car that just didn't seem to fit in the serene landscape. Without the vehicles, the houses were made in a style that almost blended with the trees. They didn't blend in the sense that they were camouflaged, but more that they had a look to them that said that they were meant to be in this little forest. Other than the houses, a couple fruit stands dotted the road. They sold items such as bright red apples and fresh, plump cherries. These too seemed to belong in such a place.

Outside of the car, I could hear the busy clatter of forest animals sounded like lovely music. The chatter of squirrels and other rodent-like creatures sounded just like

home. A nearby stream or brook could be identified by a deep gurgling along with occasional splashes. The loudest of all was the many-pitched trill of the multiple species of birds. Alone, these sounds could be rather annoying, but together they were as melodious as a professional choir.

Sometimes when I concentrate real hard or close my eyes, I can recall the fresh air filling my senses. The breeze coming in the window was pure and clean. I could smell the sap leaking out from beneath the thick bark. The sharp tang of untainted grass was refreshing. The sweet, sugary sap mixed with the crisp and sharp grass smelled heavenly. Even the light, but distinct smell of dirt melted welcomingly into the harmonious scent.

The spectacular greenery, quaint little fruit stands, and relaxing scent will be sure to draw me back to that place. Someday, I plan on returning to Connecticut. If it is in any way possible, I hope to return to that very road. Although, maybe it would be best left as the best place I've ever been rather than going back and destroying such great memories.

Ideas/Content: 4

4-4-4-4

In this response a clear and vivid picture of rural Connecticut has been described, and the content is well focused on the natural beauty of the location. The writer has provided numerous sensory details that are relevant to the natural description of a rural roadside scene.

Is there a place in the world that you just absolutely love? For me it's the local Lowes Hardware Store. Not many people would think a store is in any way special, but for me it's a comforting place to be. From the multitude of smells to the assortment of objects that are used for building; I just love it.

At the moment you enter the store you are blasted with a mixture of aromas. All around the store is different smells from wood, oaks and maples, to plants, orchids and tulips. Overall you get the smell of the great outdoors and wilderness. You also get the aroma of different metals from all of the tools surrounding you, practically begging to be used. Or there's the scent of the saws cutting into glass and plastics. Everything together is just the perfect mixture so you feel like you're in the middle of a forest.

There are so many different sounds in Lowes. My personal favorite is the quiet calmness of the gardening section where assortments of plants are waving in the breezes. There's also the screaming of the table saws cutting into a tough block of wood and then the sudden stillness of when the machine turns off. You've also got the noises of people chating about what types of projects they're starting and how they are going to get them done. I enjoy hearing about all the creative ideas there are.

The inside of Lowes is a sight to see. There are giant rows of varieties of tools. From brightly colored lightbulbs to different shades of paints, everything coming in all the colors of the rainbow and more. The multiple shades of carpets and tiles cover a whole corner of the large store attracting all kinds of people to their brightness. Mounds upon mounds of tools and equipment is stacked on the shelves. I love to go over to the gardening section and look at all of the plants. I will walk down the rows and wander around just staring at the beautiful petals. Every once in a while I will bend down and sniff a rather gorgeous plant just to see if it smells as sweet as it looks. That section of the store is left open so a breeze is able to come through and keep the flow of air moving around. That breeze makes all the shrubs and flowers sway and dance, making the place even more amazing than what it all ready is. Lowes is just wonderful to look at and see what's all inside. It's like heaven for builders everywhere.

Normally, people would expect children to try and feel all the different types of textures, but even adults would want to see what everything feels like. Anyone could be seen running up and down the isles rubbing their hands against things seeing if it's soft or rough. The carpets would be soft and plush while the hammers, saws, and screwdrivers are sharp and jagged. It's hard to resist seeing what everything feels like.

There are so many kind and helpful employees at Lowes. If a question was asked the workers would go out of their way just to make sure it was answered completely and sufficiently. Everything that anyone would need to know would be answered and then the employees would help and show you how to do things such as painting, planting, or installing.

I love Lowes because it reminds me of the outdoors and spending time outside in the sun on a beautiful day. I really enjoy working with my hands and that store allows me to do so. Whenever I walk into that place I always know that I'll be there for a while and I almost never leave empty-handed. My family and I always buy something so we can work together on some sort of project. Lowes helps my family bond and I enjoy doing that. That store has given me multiple excuses for me to go out and enjoy the sunshine and blue skies. It reminds me of fresh air and all of the wonderful seasons. Just being in Lowes for a minute lets me remember all the fun I've had outside working.

I know that as I grow up I will always continue to return to Lowes. If it's just for a drill or if it's to buy new plants, I'll go to that store. I love Lowes and everything about it and I think that I always will.

Ideas/Content: 4

4-3-4-4

In this response a clear and vivid picture of a local hardware store has been described. Numerous sensory details are used to describe the sights, sounds, textures, and feelings of the Lowes Hardware Store. The details are relevant and the content is well focused on the topic.

Although there are many places I have gone that interest me, Pierson's Ranch in Yankton is the most interesting to me. This campground is an amazing place I go to every year with my family. There are many different sights, sounds, and feelings you can experience from going camping at this beautiful place.

First are the many interesting sights at Pierson's Ranch. There are many big cotton wood trees spread throughout the campground. You can see all kinds of different RV's, campers, and tents that fill every camping spot. As you bike around the campground you will probably see the squirrels, rabbits, and other little animals that make their home at the campground. At night you can see the bright orange flames of people making bonfires and roasting smores. You also can see the moon shining bright in the night sky.

Next you can also listen to all kinds of sounds in the campground. Throughout the day you hear the chirping of the crickets and the buzzing of flies and wasps. On a windy day the branches of the trees swaying back and forth make a peaceful melody. As you ride your bike you can hear the whiz of the spokes and pop of the pebbles that hit the tires. At night you can hear the crackling of all the bonfires going.

Last, but surely not least, are the amazing feelings you can get from camping at Pierson's Ranch. Whenever you step out of your camper or tent you feel refreshed as you step into the cool crisp air. You surely will feel relaxed as you ride your bike around the beautiful campground. After a long day filled with many activities you can do, you might feel tired as you start the bonfire. As you go to bed you will feel very happy because you know you're never going to forget camping here.

All in all Pierson's Ranch is a wonderful place to go with your family and friends. All of the sights, sounds, and feelings you can get from camping here are endless. Pierson's Ranch is definitely a very interesting place to go.

Softball Fields

There's always one place that attracts my interests and I know very well. That place is the Gretna Middle School Softball field. It has been the place that helps me forget about everything else on my mind and makes me focus on what I love the most, Softball.

There is only one softball field at the Middle School, and it is in the same area as the Soccer and Football fields. The softball field is somewhat minuscule, but just the right size to have a nice softball practice. Although the field is small, and looks nice from a distance, the texture of the field is very rough and scratchy. The dirt on the field is very tough and packed so tight that it's very hard on our legs when we slide. The texture of the benches in the dugouts however are very hard and give you splinters from the wood.

The sound of a softball field always grabs your attention. For instance, If someone makes a good play, the crowd whistles, cheers and the opponents crowd may be angry and yell or boo the other team. On the field though, most the time those noises are tuned out and all you hear is your own players and coaches either congratulating you or your team, or maybe even scolding you. Besides making good plays and the crowd cheering, the umpire is behind the plate calling every pitch a ball or strike, so that noise is always one to listen for. Last but not least, the sound of sunflower seeds cracking and the shells falling on the concrete.

On a softball field, there is really no taste except for the salty taste of sunflower seeds. In the dugout someone always has sunflower seeds for themselves, or for the team. ALthough you can't eat seeds on the field, the girls eat them in the dugout. Sunflower seeds are very salty and sensitive to your taste buds depending on what kind you get. Besides sunflower seeds the only other taste is what everyone is drinking in the dugout. For example, gatorade and water.

The last thing that is great about the softball field is the feelings that you have when your foot steps on the field, and the feelings you let go when you step on the field. The feelings that can be

let go is stress. When you're on the field, all you think about is what's going on in the game. Everyone has to be paying attention, so they know their duties as a player on the team. The feelings that you may have when stepping on the field are excitement and maybe even depression if your team is down by a few runs.

In conclusion, everyone has a favorite place that is interesting to them, or that they know very well. My interesting place happens to be the Gretna Middle School softball field.

Ideas/Content: 3

3-3-3-3

The writer has presented a clear description of a local softball field. The content is generally focused on the topic, and the sensory details describing the sights, sounds, tastes, and feel of the softball field are adequate and related.

Home Away From Home

My favorite place to go is to my friend Phillip's house. It is always fun to go there. There is an endless amount of stuff to do there. My favorite is playing games there, or playing ping-pong. He invites me over to his house a lot. Whether it's the games we play, the stuff we do, or the fun we have that's why my favorite place to go is to my friend Phillip's house.

Phillip has a lot of games at his house. He always wants to play the PS3 with me. It ranges from Madden 11 to NASCAR 2011 to Call of Duty Black Ops. He has quite the variety of games to play. My favorite probably is NASCAR 2011 or MLB 11 The Show. He lets me choose the games to play. Whatever we play it is fun to beat him at it. Playing the PS3 is only one of the amazing stuff to do at Phillip's house.

There is a bunch of stuff to do at Phillip's house. I can beat him at a game of ping-pong, or shoot him in a dart war. It is so much fun to do stuff there. When he has more people over there it is really fun. I like to beat them at air hockey or at ping-pong. My favorite is to play hide and seek in the pitch black. I also like playing the PS3 there too. With all the stuff to do there it makes you wonder why it is so much fun there.

Going to Phillip's house is always fun. His house has so much to do. His dad always makes jokes and so does his mom. The only boring time at his house is when everyone is asleep. It is fun when I beat him at his favorite stuff. It is also fun when I lose a race on NASCAR 11 the game. I always hate it when I have to leave his house. There is an endless amount of fun when my friends and me are at Phillip's House.

From all the games he has, to the stuff you can play or do, to all the fun you can have, there is no wonder why Phillip's house is my favorite place to be. I always get excited when he invites me over to his house. I always have fun no matter what we do. It doesn't matter if we play football or games I love being at Phillip's house. It is always amusing what his brother Parker does. My favorite part of being at Phillip's house is hanging out with Phillip.

2-3-2-3

Ideas/Content: 2

A limited picture of a friend's house has been described in this response. The content is not particularly focused on a description of the house but more on the 'fun stuff' the writer likes to do there. Sensory details regarding the sights, sounds, tastes, and textures are limited, and the picture is incomplete and unclear.

Have you ever had a place that you feel that you belong or that you feel welcome. Well I have a place and it is my room . I feel that everyone should have a place to belong or feel welcome. So I want to tell you about a place I feel I belong or feel welcome.

My favorite or most interesting place to me is my room. My room is my favorite is because I have everything I need or want like. My tv my comfortable bed and recliner, ps3, big stereo, and all my clothes. Then when I have friends over I can fit most of them in there so we can jam out just hang out.

My room normally smells good well like cologne unless Eli comes over then I would I would advise you to stay out because he likes to let loose at my house. But then I air it out and its all good. But then it some times smells like food because my mom is always cooking and it carries into the room, luckily my moms a good cook so I have nothing to complain about.

My room has white walls with dark brown wood trim, black TV, black PS3, Gray and black stereo, and black and gray comforter on my bed with blue and black and gray pillows. My room is very plain but at the same time very detailed and organized in the times of the style now instead of retro of a kind of a future style. I really don't take time to change the style of my room because I don't care.

My room has mostly smooth or stubled stuff in it and stubled means like smooth outside cement like rough and smooth at the same time. In my room you probably wont sit there feelin the walls or the tv but maybe the bed or the recliner or the stereo but that's about is for touching stuff. My bed is soft and a little bit fluffy from the blankets that are on it. My recliner is fuzzy from the material that its made out of.

2-2-2-2

Ideas/Content: 2

The picture of what is being described is limited in this response about the writer's room. While a description of the smells, sights, and textures of the room has been attempted, the details are not adequate. The content is limited and ideas lack sufficient development in order to present a clearer picture of the room to the reader.

Westroads Mall

"Oooooohhh" Hi! Bestfriend I haven't seen you in a long time. Hi! ladies and gentlemen, I'm going to tell you a little about my story and why I chose this story. This is all about friendship and friendship is awesome, who wouldn't want friends

First, "It's my time to shine" you go to the mall because well, there are no because's you go to see your boyfriend/girlfriend, sisters, brothers, hang out with friends, sometimes fighting. Some things that you are touching are the walls, hugging people that you know, you have to touch your food and sometimes you are playing your games.

Then, the things that come to mind when you're here is "is my bestfriend, sister, cousin, brother, boyfriend/girlfriend coming then, you call them up, and tell them to come up to the Westroads mall". You also hear a lot of screaming, babies crying, people gossiping (which starts fights) then next thing you know, you turn the corner and you see a fight right in the middle of the hallway, many people are coming and running toward the fight that's going on. But, that's not the whole reason why people go to the mall. You also buy important things

Ideas/Content: 1

1-1-2-1

The picture of what is being described in this response is unclear. The content has many digressions from the description of the Westroads Mall, and the main focus of the essay is unclear. Sensory details are lacking.

I wish I could go home right now.

It's a large, old historical white house. It has 4 bedrooms.

I hear my dad and dog snoring at night.

My kitchen is hot right now.

Ideas/Content: 1

1-1-1-2

In this response about the writer's house, the picture of what is being described is unclear. The content lacks development of any ideas, and the brief sensory details that have been presented are minimal at best.

Organization

My Back Yard

My back yard is my favorite place to be. It's close to nature, but I don't have to worry about being eaten by a bear. I can be alone, but know there are people nearby. I can think without being disturbed. I can relax and unwind after a hard, long day. It's a really great place to be. I love spending time in my back yard because of the sights, sounds, and how it makes me feel.

My back yard is a treat for the eyes. I can see the million different shades of green in the grass and the trees. There's a patch where it has been worn down to dirt from dribbling a basketball. By the patch stands a tall basketball hoop from a garage sale, a hoop with no backboard. There is an ancient wooden swing set that I played on when I was a little kid, and now my baby sister plays on it. A weed covered, brick patio sits off to the side, covered with well weathered lawn chairs. But there is so much more to life than just seeing things, because my back yard has lots of things to hear as well.

Sounds rush to my ear as soon as I walk into my back yard. Beautiful birds chirp to their own unique song. I can hear my dog barking in the distance. The wind rustles the leaves on the towering trees. Most of the time, I can hear the steady beat of basketball bouncing on the dirt. Sometimes what makes a place sound good is what you can't hear. I don't have to listen to cars driving past and people yelling. I can just listen to nature, and feel amazing.

I go to my back yard so I can feel at peace. I can be alone with myself, and my thoughts. There are no sisters to annoy me. There is nothing to worry about. It's just my back yard and me. Alone, and at peace. I feel free in my back yard.

By far, my back yard is my favorite place to be. There's so much to see. So much to hear. I feel such amazing feelings there. I could spend hours back there by myself. I think my back yard is the best place in the world. It's in back of my house, but in the front of my heart.

Organization: 4

4-4-4-4

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is effective in this response about a back yard. Pacing is well controlled as each idea leads smoothly to the next in a logical progression. Transitions effectively show how these ideas connect. A strong and satisfying conclusion effectively sums up the writer's feelings and connections to his/her back yard. Paragraphing is sound.

The Wonders of Wal-Mart

I constantly watch the people that walk beside me as I meander down the crowded aisles in the large Wal-Mart in our small town. Watching people is definitely something I can't help but do in a store like Wal-Mart. It may not be an exciting or thrilling place, but when it comes to being interesting Wal-Mart takes the cake and sells it too.

As I walk into Wal-Mart a refreshing gust of cool air blows in my face. On cold winter nights a chill runs down my spine. When I first enter the super center a hair salon, smelling of hair products and soap comes into view to the right of me. Movie advertisements are scattered on the walls. A low hum of voices and beeping cash registers drown out the music overhead.

To my left I can see the McDonald's at the other end of the store. Little children whine to their parents when they don't get a treat. In front of me are rows of clothing racks and aisles full of food. Mothers of all shapes and sizes push carts full to the brim with groceries. Elderly couples check their lists several times and then head back the way they came. The hustle and bustle energizes me and I want to ride the cart as fast as I can through the store.

I can smell the dead fish close by, so I head towards the bakery where fresh bread and cookies of all flavors make my mouth water. My eyes light up when I see fresh flowers in every color imaginable. They are breathtaking and their sweet smell is even better. I reach out to touch a rose, but jerk my hand back when I'm pricked by a thorn. There is no blood so I carefully stroke the silky soft petals.

I walk through endless aisles of food. I see one after another of my favorite snacks. My favorite aisle is where the coffee is. When I take a deep breathe my nose is filled with the sweet and rich smells of the exotic coffee beans. My head spins after I take several deep breaths. The coffee tastes bitter, but has a wonderful scent.

A young man helps an old grandma reach something from the top shelf. A group of teenage girls giggle in the makeup aisle. Little kids cry when they don't get a special toy. Couples argue over what kind of furniture to buy for their new homes. The whole store is as if I were living in a movie. It is an interesting place to observe people.

While I wait to check out I watch closely as customers purchase their items. Soft fleece for blanket making catches my eye. The floral print is exquisite and I find myself staring. Babies cry while their mothers attempt to hush them and old ladies try to get the lowest prices on every item they buy. I am completely entertained and amused. As I walk out of the store I think of what will happen next time I come to see the show.

Organization: 4

4-4-4-4

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is effective in this response about the wonders of Wal-Mart. The pacing is well controlled as the writer uses subtle transitions to take us on a journey through the Wal-Mart store. An effective introduction engages the reader and a satisfying conclusion is apparent as the writer exits the store. Paragraphing is sound.

Weird Wal-Mart

A place I find interesting is Wal-Mart. The reason that I find it interesting is that weird things are there. Most of the sights, sounds, and smells are all weird. I don't really like Wal-Mart but it seems pretty interesting.

Most of the sights are what I don't really need to see. Most of the people there look deformed. Some people have too much toilet paper or ketchup. There is sometimes some littl

e kid running around when the parents don't do anything or the parents aren't there at all. There will be some fat kid playing a game demo in the video game area. One time I saw a few drops of blood on the floor and the staff ignored it. Those are many of the worst things I would find at Wal-Mart. The thing that could be as bad as the sights would be the sounds coming from the sights.

There are usually sounds of a child crying or a parent yelling at their child. There would be a couple of old people having a conversation. A baby might be crying or laughing. There will be that fat kid begging his parents to buy him a video game. I always here the beeping sound of the check out line. In the bathroom there are loud toilets flushing. They smell bad too.

Smells are weird and good at Wal-Mart. The smell of the pizza is delicious. But in the bathrooms they smell good sometimes and bad. The smell of the fresheners in the urinals are nice. But the smell of the poop is horrible. The smell of all the cleaner products makes me sneeze a lot. In the baby section I can smell baby powder. At the check out line I can smell old people, they smell like soap. The younger people smell like perfume or deoderent. Many of these things will give me a head ache.

Those things are all the freaky stuff at Wal-Mart. Wal-Mart may be loud, smelly, and doesnt look right, but its not my favorite store.

Organization: 3

3-3-3-3

While the structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is present in this response, it is functional in construction. A simple introduction presents the three main ideas of the sights, sounds, and smells of Wal-Mart; however, effective transitions connecting these main ideas are lacking. Pacing is generally controlled and internal transitions, where present, are functional. Paragraphing is generally successful; however, the brief concluding paragraph is not effective.

My house

Have you ever thought of your house as being a zoo? Well I have! I have more animals than most people have in their entire life. It is hard taking care of two dogs and 16 birds and of course one lazy cat.

First, I have to take care of the dogs by feeding them, grooming them, give them baths, and more. It is not easy trying to do all those things at one time. That is why I have family members.

Second, my grandma and grandpa take care of the birds but, on occasion I have to sweep all the bird seed that they knock over. Then I have to vaccum up the floors after im done sweeping.

Finally, I have to take care of my lazy cat Bruno. All I really have to do is groom him and give him cat food. My grandma clips his nails, well, tries.

That is why my house is like a zoo. You never know whats going to happen next! Now do you thinks my job is hard?

Organization: 3

2-3-2-2

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is functional in this response about the author's house. Pacing is generally controlled and transitions are very functional. The paragraphing is generally successful.

You ever had a special place you ever wanted to go or just be at when you were feeling sad, mad, or even happy. There are many places like this, and to everyone each place is special. I've thought about special places all the time. For every feeling I have a different place for it. My favorite place is probably my room. It's not too loud or busy, it's perfect except for when my brothers come in. I know I can be myself in there because I know it belong to me. I know I can be myself in there because all I am or ever was is hanging on my wall. When I'm feeling down I can look all around me and see "ME". I was born in a city so you'd think I'm a city boy but I'm not. I just like big empty places like my room. No living thing but me. This also helps me to calm down and have no distractions. There are many other qualites my room has to make it special.

Some sights in my room are pleasing to me and some are not. For example I like my acheivment wall, where all my medals and trophies are. I like the way the medals shine in the light. The way the tropies are lined in a somewhat straight line. I like my closet because I'm the most organized person in my family. Some of the walls I am ashamed of are probaly the Detention wall. I've posted every detention I got since fourth grade, some worth it some not. I also like to lay in my bed and take a nap or just think about stuff, about my day.

Another feeling I have about my room is the texture of some of the things here. First of I have a spongey and soft bed. I m closet I have a section called Prepy, and that's where I keep all my prepy clothes, and I like feeling my special silk shirts. I also have things of places I've been like my gold from Devil's Tower. Lastly I would like to talk about sounds in my room. Since my room is on the top room I love to open the windows and hear the bird sing and all that good stuff.

In conclusion I think that my room is special because It's mine.

Organization: 2

2-2-2-3

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is limited in this response about the writer's room. The pacing is somewhat inconsistent and uneven as the progression of ideas is not always logical. Some ideas are adequately elaborated, whereas other ideas are simply brushed upon and introduced seemingly randomly. Transitions within the paragraphs are weak and do not help connect the ideas. Somewhat irregular paragraphing and a brief weak conclusion are evident.

Grandmas

I enjoy going to my grandmas because, there are such wonderful smells there at her house. I can also pick on my grandpa.

The first thing you see when you pull up to my grand parents house is the steel building and the barn. The steel building is this big building my grandpa keeps his tractors, pickups, and other objects. The barn is where he keeps his stud and hay for him if it is warm he goes out but he's in when it is cold.

Then you see the shop and the house. The house has been in the family for almost 100 years. The house use to be green but it got hailed out and now it is grey with a white roof and an old brick chiminey. He shop is full of tools and the workbench is always dirty.

Behind the house is the chicken coop. Wich is always lined with chickens. When you open the door to the house an aroma of home cooked food attacks you. Inside the house there is a texture like no other wood on the ceiling and tile on the floor is just what helps tie it all together. Behind the house there are usually black angus cattle.

Organization: 2

2-2-2-2

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is limited in this response about Grandma's. Pacing is inconsistent and the progression of ideas is somewhat illogical. Weak transitions do not adequately connect the ideas together. Paragraphing is irregular and a weak unconnected introduction and missing conclusion are evident.

The place that I find interesting to me is my room. My room is si on the secend story of our house, has three windous, and is above our siting room. It's white, a littil dull, and a tad bit cold in the winter, but it's home to me. I have an Xbox360©, a small Samsung© TV, 2 book shelves, a medeum sized oak dreser, and a lite blue camping chare. I usualy just go in there to relax after school and my chores, but most of the time I play my Xbox360©. It has a nice veaw of the contre road and the gient wall of trees.

Organization: 1

2-1-2-2

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is lacking in this brief response about the writer's room. Missing transitions do not connect the list of ideas that are presented in a somewhat random order. Paragraphing is missing and there is an abrupt ending with no conclusion.

Have you ever had a favorite place? Well I have let me tell you more about McDonalds.

Mcdonalds is a very busy or not busy mcdonalds can be small or big/large. Some mcdonalds are a regular resturant but some are with games.

Things you may smell,hear,see. Are lets start with hearing things you may hear are people having a conversation,people taking orders people asking if the can get kitchup,you may also hear the nice big patty sizzling on grill, fires boiling on the oil,people yelling order uppans moving. Now see things you may see are people eating people working hard signs cars may see toys for kids or a playground. Things you may smell are the great smell of fries and ham burgers. The taste of the nice hamburgers.

Organization: 1

2-1-1-1

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is lacking in this response about McDonalds. Pacing is awkward as a simple list of somewhat random thoughts about the restaurant is presented. The ideas are not organized or connected and transitions are lacking. Paragraphing is ineffective.

Voice / Word Choice

A Fairy Tale Setting

Once in a while the scorching sun peaks out from the thick blanket of white fluffy clouds, casting endless shadows. This is a rare occurrence, but still even with out the sun, the mother to our life, the Michigan woods are still a spectacular place, in every way. Most of the time Michigan is filled with hazy fog and light rain showers. In Michigan just west from Lansing in a small-secluded area is my favorite place in the whole wide world, the woods. Now you might think to your self, woods? Icky! Woods are filled with buzzing bugs and smelly sopping wet grass. But I love these woods because of there unique sights, spectacular smells and sounds, and the unforgettable memories and emotions that rush to me when ever I visit.

Tall grass, sparkling with fresh dew droplets. Looming trees shadowing communities of small animals. The occasional bird, flitting to and from the brush, gathering worms and berries for it's young. Once in a while if go to the woods you can catch a glimpse of the smiling sun showing her bright face though the thick canopy of trees. Now that is an amazing sight, like a spotlight in a play, illuminating all around it. The Michigan woods are still a breathtaking place even when the sun is shinning elsewhere. The fog wraps up the woods, sucking them in like a grandmother's warm hug. If you sit really still on a tree stump for what feels like forever the woods really come alive. Baby bunnies emerge from the safety of their warm den to fallow their mother to food. The birds flit and float with each other enjoying the day and building nests for a new beginning. The sights in the Michigan forest may be just amazing, but the sounds and smells are even better.

The chirping of birds echoes in the woods, as they call out to each other in a sweet language we will never know. The hush of the wind calms everything and makes it seem like time is frozen. The smell of rain wafts into my nostrils form the clouds drenching me, and my joy with even more happiness. Pouring from the clouds comes the rain, but then softer and the afternoon comes dripping off the vibrant green leaves. These are one of my favorite smells and sounds ever. Sometimes if you sit ever so quiet and still you can here the clash of the deer's antlers fighting over territory. The rain is like a shield, blocking out everything else out of the forest, creating a calm peaceful atmosphere. As the rain stampedes on the wildlife becomes non-existent, like a person with a problem, just waiting for it to pass. Although the sights, smells, and sounds are completely magnificent, the memories and emotions that accrue when I'm there are most spectacular.

When I was little I was in love with princesses and there lives, and truth be told I still like them. But hey, really, who doesn't? I would dress up as Bell (my favorite) from Beauty and the Beast and dance around the house talking to walls, spoons, chairs, anything pretending it was real. I remember the first time my grandfather brought me to the woods; I was dressed in the same sparkly yellow beautiful Bell dress jumping around in the long grass probably scaring the poor bunnies to death. Now when I go back, no longer in the sparkly yellow Bell dress (for they don't make them in my size any more). I feel just as I did when I was four, but then as the rain begins to fall I feel a since of calm and peace spread over me. There in those surreal Michigan woods I feel as if I'm in the setting of a fairy tale, just waiting for my prince to come and sweep me off my feet, so tranquil and amazing.

To outside world it is just a forest in Michigan, a gloomy old forest with rain and rabid animals. But to me it is a whole other world. Trees so perfect, it looks like DaVinci himself painted them. Chirping blue birds everywhere, showing off their sky blue wings like a second grader at the school talent show. The smell of rain to come, the clouds heavy with tears, threatening to scream with thunder. A peaceful stunning sanctuary, always open to all, and all because of its unique sights, spectacular smells and sounds, and the irreplaceable unforgettable feelings. Like the Michigan woods are just screaming "once upon a time" drawing you in to see the magical fairy tale setting.

Voice/Word Choice: 4

4-4-4-4

In this response about the woods of Michigan, the wording is expressive and engaging and conveys a strong sense of the writer throughout the essay. A strong voice is well suited for the purpose and audience, and the descriptive language is specific, precise, and varied throughout the response. Numerous vivid words and phrases are used effectively to create the image and feel of the Michigan woods, and to explain the writer's fairytale love for them.

Do you have a favorite place you like to go to? Well I do. Even though there are many interesting places in this world, the Norfolk Country Club is my favorite. I enjoy this place because there are many fun activities to do there.

First of all are the sights at the Country Club. When you walk down the 16th fairway awaiting your next shot and you see a bushy tailed squirrel sprint across the grass. The fresh blue water in the pool, sparkles with the sun. When you're on the driving range hitting golf balls, you see the bright yellow ball bounce up and down in the green grass and roll a little past the 200 yard mark. Going into the clubhouse to get a tee time you see the friendly workers with a nice white smile on their face everytime.

Next are the sounds. Golfing is a traditional sport there and when you hear that perfect shot come off my four-iron, it's like music to your ears. Splashing in the pool while eating your cheeseburger poolside makes you want to put your swimsuit on and just go jump in! Screams come from little and big kids as they go off the diving board or go down the slide. Once in awhile a "hooray!" or a "nice shot" will be heard from the 9th or the 18th green also.

Third are the tastes. Hole 4 is a par 3, you hit a perfect seven iron shot right at the pin, but in the mean time the big chunk of grass you took from the grass flies right back into your mouth, and that doesn't taste very well. The sweet taste of a Roy Rodgers pleasures my taste buds after a long 18 hole walk. "Splash!" you jump in the pool with your mouth open and you get a horrid taste from the chlorine filled water. A juicy burger from the reseraunt fills your stomach just as your about to leave for the night.

Finally are the feelings you receive while at Country Club. Knowing that whenever your there your welcome by everyone just makes the place twice more fun! Everytime that someone jumps into the pool they get a cool feeling from the sixty degree water. Walk into the restraurant and sit down, a waiter will come and ask "would you like anything?" you respond with "yes a soda, please" they will bring that soda right to you. Great service is very fine there and it makes you feel as if they are your maids and they do whatever you say. While laying poolside on a comortable chair, it feels like laying on clouds!

In conclusion the Country Club makes my days and my summer much more entertaining. If I had to spend everyday of my life somewhere it would probably be here because it has everything I could ask for, golf, swimming, and tennis. All in all Country Club is one my favorite places to spend my time.

Voice/Word Choice: 4

3-3-4-3

In this response about a local country club, the wording is expressive and engaging and conveys a strong sense of the writer throughout the essay. The voice is well suited for the purpose and audience, and the descriptive language is specific, precise, and varied throughout the response. Numerous vivid words and phrases are used effectively to describe the location and to explain why the Norfolk Country Club is the writer's favorite place to spend his/her summers.

Everyone has their own special place. Somewhere they love to go hang out or like the peace and quiet. Although my place is somewhere I go just to have fun. My place is Mexico.

There are many sights in Mexico, but one of my favorites is the "Bienvenido A Mexico" sign that is at the boarder. Another great sight is the huge 2 story building in Ayutla where my aunt has her restaruant. There is also the most amazing sign in Mexico that says "Santa Rosalia" and then an arrow pointing to which way to go. There is also a beautiful plaza in the center of the town where I go to just about every day. Lastly would be my grandma and grandpa's house which is a 2 story building with a balcony and corrals outback for all the animals that they have.

There are also many sounds in Mexico, like at the boarder there are a lot of sounds of the cars. In Guadalajara there are also many sounds of cars, there may also be music depending on the day. Then in Santa Rosalia the best sound in the mornings is of the animals. Makes you feel peaceful, well at least to me it does. Then another great sound there would be of the music at night when people are having a great time talking playing dominos or poker. Although it especially gets good when there is a huge party going on.

There are a lot of tastes in Mexico, one of the best is the taste of the tacos. It doesn't really matter where you get them, but I mostly like to get them in the state of Jalisco. Another great taste would be of the lemon ice cream they have in Guadalajara. Practically any Mexican food you eat there will make your mouth water. Oh, but my grandma's homecooked food is the best! Her food would be the best to eat if you're not out at a restaurant or something else.

Finally, there are many textures in Mexico, like in the building at the boarder in Laredo, Texas there are pretty bumpy columns that keep the building up. The parking lot outside of the building of course is hard and kinda greasy because of all the cars that have been there. The outside of my grandma and grandpa's house in Guadalajara is rough and bumpy. The roads in Santa Rosalia aren't exactly roads because it's made of rocks not cement or anything like that. Up where my grandparents live its pretty much just dirt road. Lastly their house is

much smoother. The outside of it is smoother, the inside is a little rougher, and the tile floor on the second floor are nice and smooth. Although in the bedrooms its just cement.

All in all this would be the place I know very well. Now you know what I like about it and why it would also be my favorite place.

Voice/Word Choice: 3

3-3-3-3

In this response about Mexico, the wording is generally expressive and conveys a certain sense of the writer and a love for his/her family's homeland. The voice is generally appropriate for the purpose and audience, and the language is generally specific and varied. Some vivid words and phrases adequately describe the sights, sounds, tastes, and textures of Mexico.

Winter Park, Wyoming

Mountains in the distance. When you see the size of the Rocky Mountains you feel small. Snow capped slopes as far as you can see. A ski resort stands there in the mountains. Winter Park is a very large and public ski resort. Men, Women, and Children are all having fun. As you go down the first slope you have ever done, you look to both sides and realize that the trail is surrounded by trees. Even though you are in the mountains you can still see more and more hidden behind the others. You hear many sounds some are natural and some are coming from the many people. Laughter comes from the people, you hear all sorts of sounds in the mountains. Birds, streams, snow falling from trees, an eagle screeching from high in the sky. While you are speeding down a slope you strangely taste, something that is unfamiliar. You take a breath and realize that it is the cool, clean mountain air. You never thought air could taste so good and refreshing. When you are on a trail and think that you may be going too fast, you feel fear but you are also confident that you will stay on your feet. Sometimes this confidence fails and you find yourself flying through the air. You put your hand in the snow, so cold and packed hard by hundreds of people skiing down the slope. As you start to get up, you put your hand on a tree for balance, the tree is hard and the bark is rough. After you get some practice in and get the hang of skiing, a ski instructor shows you the basics of how to go fast, slow down, and how to avoid crashing. This instructor is mostly patient and a nice guy. Even after my time skiing ran out and I had to leave, I still think about it and remember how I felt about the place, surroundings sights, smells, tastes, and sounds of the mountains. This place is almost like magic you meet so many people and see so many things that experiences like this are very hard to forget. Every time I think about it I get a feeling in my stomach that kind of feels like I'm falling a great distance. The crystal clear picture of the mountains still in my memory, I can still experience the sights of the Rockies and Winter Park ski resort. It is a very good place for families to bond and get to know each other better and better every day you are here. You know you aren't that good at skiing and you have even seen kids as young as four or five do better than you but you just want to have fun with it. My parents helped me a lot and taught me how to stay up. We went from the extremely easy trails to some trails that are very challenging and sometimes scary. One of the most challenging things for me was learning how to get on the ski lift. I fell several times and lost my ski once or twice.

Voice/Word Choice: 3

3-2-3-2

In this response about Winter Park Ski Resort, the wording is generally expressive and conveys a certain sense of the writer. The voice is generally appropriate for the purpose and audience, and the language is generally specific and varied. Some vivid words and phrases adequately describe the snowy mountain experience and the writer's enjoyment of his/her first skiing experience.

Ranch

I like our ranch it. It has many unique characteristics. Some things you can see are trees and grass. There is also a quanset, some pickups, tractors, a barn, cats, and houses. In the fields there are fences, cows, horses, and water tanks.

Some smells are air, grass, and plants. Some familiar sounds there are june bugs, cows, horses, and equipment. My favorite tastes there are steaks, hash-browns, pop, choke cherries, and currents.

There is also some unique things to touch. You can touch tractors and other equipment in the field. At the house you can touch chairs, couches, remotes, glasses, plates, and silverware. You can touch a wide variety of tools. Also you can touch all the animals.

While there you can do many types of work. Some of the work is looking after cattle, haying, and caring for sick animals. I enjoy working out at the ranch alongside my relatives.

That is why I like the family ranch. Also, I like to get away from everything. Out there it is nice and peaceful.

Voice/Word Choice: 2

2-2-2-2

A limited sense of the writer is evident in this response about the Ranch. Wording is only occasionally expressive, and the voice is sometimes inappropriate for the purpose. Language is occasionally precise and specific, and the use of vivid words or phrases is inadequate.

The place I think is interesting is Saint Louis City Museum.

Because they have everything like rides. The place smells like food
Everywhere !, It feels like a place I would wanna live at, and sometimes it
feels like home, in the Inside the sounds are kids laughing and talking
Enjoying their selves with there parents.

The reason I like it is because it seems like a place were I can relax at, and
were I can have fun at with my friends when we don't have anything to do
on the weekend. And even sometimes I can hang with my family when they
are bored or don't have anything to do either. Oh and another reason why I
like goin there is because sometimes they have a person who is a woman
that comes out to the musem to talk about health stuff so that we don't
make the wrong choices in life.

I Think it's cool to go to the musem because you can meet people you never
met befor, and see what they are interested in, and find out are they
interested in the same things you are interested in. I like it because the first
time I whent, I whent with my old school . MIDDLE and I did NOT
wanna Leave At all ! But I also lovee Lincoln Nebraska's Capital city .

Voice/Word Choice: 2

2-1-2-1

In this response about the Saint Louis City Museum, the wording is occasionally expressive, conveying a limited sense of the writer. The voice is only sometimes appropriate for the purpose, and the language is occasionally precise and specific. The use of vivid words and phrases is limited.

one of my faveorite places to be is the mall. I enjoy the sites because they are usually of things im going to get like clothes, shoes, or food. I like the smell of all the food and stores each place smells different that you go to and its cool. I like the feel of the skateboards because I like to skateboard and bikeing so its fun to look at all the kinds of boards. I like the tastes of the food because I like to eat and I like there food because it taste good. i like to hear the sound of my music blasting of what any other noise is out there. the mall it self is pretty big so its just fun to be there. you can walk around and have fun just with that I guess if that's what your into.

Voice/Word Choice: 1

2-1-1-1

The wording in this response about the mall is inexpressive and lifeless. Little sense of the writer has been conveyed. The voice is inappropriate for the purpose and audience, and the language is not specific, precise, or varied. Very few vivid words or phrases are used.

Favorite place

The place that interesting me the most is my house. When you walk in my house you will enjoy a rich favor of flower . The people who live in my house is my parent and my sister, and my brother. When you walk in the kicthen you will smell my mom fruits pie it is so deliciouses. We have picture on the wall of my family.

In the basement we leave are games down there. We have a Wii, and Xbox 360, and a Xbox, and a PSP. Upstairs in my room I have to share room with my brother. In my room we have a fullscreen t.v. in are room. In the middle floor of the house we have a huge fullscreen t.v.

For idependance day we celebraite at my house. We have party ever special day of the year. Most of my family come to the party. They come in my house to play pool and dart.

Voice/Word Choice: 1

1-1-1-1

The wording in this response about the writer's house is inexpressive and lifeless. Little sense of the writer has been conveyed. The voice is inappropriate for the purpose and audience, and the language is not specific, precise, or varied. A few vivid words or phrases are used.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions

My Perfect Place

My perfect place is not just some ordinary spot around my home. Instead, it's a place that casts memories each and every day, all year long. There's never a dull moment on this place I'd like to call my own. As I graze my hands along the rough, jagged surface of the earthly floor, I tear my nails into the ground and yank out pieces of grass, gracefully throwing them into the air in complete fulfillment. I'm on cloud nine in my perfect place. There's nowhere else I'd rather be when I'm here. The thought of what else I can see from this place is almost exhilarating.

I lay on my back in complete and utter admiration. There it is right in front of me, an extensive and dense surrounding that I marvel at. The sights I've seen in this specific spot would stagger the eyes of many others; the night sky is what I've been amazed by. I could rest here for hours on end just to see what else I can picture. The warm and soothing summer air flows freely as I ponder about the world and what else is out there. Everything that encloses me is beyond breathtaking. I observe the eye-opening, lustrous night sky. I could never get tired of distinguishing the patterns of the stars and how many shapes I could create from them.

I can peer through my eyes of hazel and depict the outlines of the big oak

tree that also dangles a tire swing. There is always so much open land out here in this place that I call home. Crickets are chirping and animals in the wide-open spaces call for each other in the dark, murky night. A favorite place such as a hotel or an amusement park couldn't sum up to this midnight paradise.

Lights are the most distinguishing feature out in this country land. Cars can be seen and heard for miles down the highway. While I take in the scents of the fresh, passive country air, I feel the smooth dirt run through my fingers. I feel the hard, stiff feeling of the twigs as I run my hands through the grass. It's mid-summer and I'm completely jovial. Airplanes in the night sky soar over me without a sound. This place has been filled with serenity and tranquility. Everything is peaceful and calming. It's my quick getaway from the insides of televisions and video games. But, when I'm out here, all I see is true nature and a clear, open atmosphere. Along with the night sky, I wonder if anyone else is sitting outside in the grass and wondering the same question as I am now.

My perfect place isn't just some ordinary spot around my home. Instead, it's a place that casts memories each and every day, all year long. There's never a dull moment on this place I'd like to call my own. There's nowhere else I'd rather be when I'm here. When I'm here, it's home, and it's all my own.

Sentence Fluency/Conventions: 4

3-3-4-4

Sentences vary in length and structure throughout this response about a home in the country. Phrasing consistently sounds natural and conveys meaning. Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling are consistently correct.

The Perfect Place

Many places are interesting to me. I have been to numerous cities and other sites that hold significance in other peoples' lives. But my special place is closer to home. Out of all the nooks I could choose from, I pick my bedroom.

There are many sights to see within my bedroom. As I enter my domain, through the bathroom door, the first thing that catches my eye is the soft, sea green walls and the tan wood floor. My bed is definitely the next thing that stands out to me. It's the largest thing in my room with its green and blue polka-dotted comforter and multitudes of pillows. When I turn around, I am face to face with my desk. On rare occasions, I'm able to see the woody texture of my desk. Next, is my big, white closet that houses all of my clothes and shoes. I turn right, walk a few steps, and I am faced with a door that leads to the family room. To the left of the door is a shelf with everything from books to music. If I make a 180-degree turn, there is a little, black guitar rack. It supports both of my acoustic guitars and my single electric guitar. To the right and about ten feet away there is a decent sized window with a glorious view. Although sights are very important to the feel of a room or place, smells make up a good sized portion too.

The smell of my room is just right for me. There is almost always the gentle scent of vanilla and cherries drifting through my room. The smell of Jolly Ranchers is quite common too. When I am working on homework or writing a story, my room smells of pencil lead and eraser shavings. My room has even smelled like lilacs once or twice. And sometimes, my room has no smell at all. Smells are a major contribution to the overall feeling of my bedroom.

My room has a special feeling that it gives me when ever I walk under its doorway. I find that my room is an excellent place to read because it has a very calming aura. Whenever I practice guitar, I feel like I am performing for millions of people. My bedroom is also the perfect spot to do homework because of its peace and serenity. All in all, my special place is very quiet, but only part of the time.

When it comes to sounds, my room can range from too much to none at all. Occasionally, when I super tired in the morning, I have my radio blasting. This not only succeeds in waking me up, it also rouses everybody else out of their blanketed cocoons. While I read or work on homework, my room is dead silent. When I plug one of my guitars into my amp, it is again very loud, but, luckily for everyone else in the family, I don't practice in the morning. The noise level in my bedroom constantly varies in volume.

My room suits me very well. It is shaped perfectly around my personality. From its inviting appearance to its sweet smells and range of pandemonium levels, my spacious bedroom is the most special place to me.

One Day, but a Favorite Place

There is always a place that everyone will know well and will find some what interesting things about it. For example it could be Paris, or Hollywood, perhaps even New York. All those places are different in some ways. They are either crowded, busy, huge, or even magnificent. Except they could also be similar in some ways as well. As I show you what my most interesting place is, I want you to think of your own interesting place that you know well.

Blinded by yellow blooming flowers, I run around hiding from all the others. I lay down on the Earth ground cushioned by beautiful green grass. Everything is peaceful, yet exciting. I peek over the tall yellow flowers looking around, seeing if something is coming. But all I see is nothing besides the purplish-blue mountains standing tall in the background, and the green forest circling the magnificent meadow. I can smell the delicious fragrances stretching from the flowers covering the whole meadow.

I hear the birds chirping above as I stay still and listen. I listen to everything around me as though nature is playing it's song. Everything is quiet until I hear the rustling of the tree im leaning against. A couple of leaves fall down on top of my head as a butterfly flutters gracefully away. I am in the dead center of the whole meadow with my backpack full of my interests such as a book, notebook, colors, and a pen and pencil. I reach for my book as the wind blows softly against my hair.

It isn't very crowded yet it is a huge place. It is midday with the sun shinning bright. I am not alone. I decide to stand up and look around one more time and there they are, running to me from the lake, that is on the other side of the meadow across from the forest, as if there was something chasing after them. "Zoe!" they say as they stop dead infront of me, panting from the quick run. My brothers tell me what they have found and then when they are done talking they take something out of their bags. They pull out a rock?

I study the rock closer and find that it is in some sort of shape. I ask to see it and they hand me the rock. I slide my hand on its smooth texture as I shape out the design. I find it is a heart. I look at it with an unbelievable expression on my face and in my eyes. "A rock in a shape of a heart," I say more to myself than to my brothers. I get up, grab my stuff, and walk with them to our parents with the rock still in my hand.

I say hello to our parents as we talk about my brothers findings. Ten miutes later we head off to home. I think about the place we were just at and I think of the feelings and the smells so then I start to feel as if I were still there as I put a small smile on my lips. We are now home and I put the rock firmly on a ledge above the fireplace. When I take a step back with my brothers and look at it, we know, that we will always remember this day and the place we had gone. Even, if was just a day that we were there, it will always be a favorite.

Sentence Fluency/Conventions: 3

4-4-4-3

Sentences generally vary in length and structure in this response about the writer's most interesting place. Phrasing generally sounds natural. Some fragments and run-ons do not confuse the reader. Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling are usually correct, and the errors that are evident do not distract the reader.

Memorial Stadium

People walk out of the tunnel and into the stands and almost go deaf when the home team runs out on to the field. They walk to there seats and sit down but notice that their seats are literally vibrating from the crowd! The crowd almost makes people stand the whole game! That is what happens when you go watch the the Nebraska Cornhuskers play at Memorial Stadium.

That was just a little taste of Memorial Stadium. Memorial Stadium is one of the biggest and loudest stadiums in all of college football. The stadium has been sold out for more than three-hundred straight games and counting! When you walk into the stadium, you smell the high price food from the concession stands within the stadium. The food is delicious, you can get many of peoples' favorite food items like pizza, hamburgers, popcorn and many more! They also have stands that sell thirst quenching drinks. Once that people get all the items they need before the game, they finally get to walk out into the stadium.

The stadium before the game is still a little loud, but not bad. The stadium has cement seats that circle around the giant stadium. As more and more people walk into the stadium you begin to notice they are all dressed in red! I guess that is the reason why another name for the stadium is the Sea of Red.

Finally, it is game time! The commentator announces every one of the starting players on a giant television on the north wall along with four other big ones in the corners of the stadium. The music that the players walk out on to the field gives a lot of people goose bumps all over. The players run out on to the field and the crowd erupts in to cheers and whistles. Then the opposing team comes out on to the green turf of Nebraska and are usually booed by some fans. The stadium is almost swaying back and forth before kick-off of the game.

During the game, if an official throws a bad flag, he is going to hear about it from the fans! Everyone in the stadium yells at the ref and dares him to throw another one. When the Huskers, in there scarlet and cream jerseys, score the stadium starts a cheer that will run through your mind for the whole game. Towards the end of the game, the fans start to do the wave. The wave is one of the best parts of going to a game! It feels like and electric current that goes through every fan and makes him stand and throw his arms up in the air.

At the very end of the game, there are usually fireworks if it is a night game. The fans always stick around for that and cheer the players for a job well done. As you funnel out the tunnels of the stadium, which takes a very long time, you are hoping that you parked your car closer than what you thought to the stadium. It usually is a long walk to your car and a long

wait to get out of the lot in your vehicle. In that wait though, you can run through your head think of the memories that you can tell to your parents.

Sentence Fluency/Conventions: 3

3-3-3-3

Sentences generally vary in length and structure in this response about Memorial Stadium. Phrasing generally sounds natural. Run-ons do not confuse the reader. Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling are usually correct. A few errors do not distract the reader.

Hearing a slight squeak coming from the swing set at the park. Watching the little kids run around the jungle gym. Listening to every foot step being taken on the playground. Feeling the smooth touch of the sand as you walk on it. Hearing the bump from the slide as kids go down it. These are what I hear and see when I go down to my neighborhood park. Everyone has a place they know well. Well, this is mine.

Almost every weekend my friends and I walk down to our neighborhood park to relax and have simple fun. Making the best out of what we have there to play with. Using sticks and little trinkets to play hot and cold in the sand. Digging in the sand with our hands trying to find the object we hid. Hearing the rustle of the sand under our feet. Looking at our feet as the sand pushes itself between our toes.

Going higher and higher as our legs push us up into the sky on the swings. Enjoying the simplest ways of life, as a little kid. Listening to the squeak coming from the tight chains on the swing set. Laughing at funny moments trying to jump off the swing. Attempting to take pictures while jumping through the air.

Overlooking the whole playground, you would see a swing set containing two baby swing and two regular swings with green seats, on the left side. On the right you would see two bouncy chairs. The first one which is a dragon with two seats on it and is a forest green with a wide smile on its face. The second one that is sky blue and is a jet. And lastly, you would find a sand digger in front of those bouncy chairs. Where almost all of the sand has been pushed to the sides of it.

The biggest part of the whole playground is the jungle gym. Which has an animal theme to it. It starts as a step leading to another step, which leads to a box step. After that it has four

more steps, which leads you to the first level of the jungle gym. In the shape of a octogan, on the right side has a tan double slide. Next to that it has a "wooden" window and chair. Nothing is on the left side of the octogan. But, next to the window and the chair is four stairs which leads you to the second level. It is also shaped like an octogan. On the left is a pole, which you can slide down. At the end of it, is a spider web kind of thing that you can climb up and down and has a forest green color to it also. Next to the spider web is a tan algator, that is supposed to be used for climbing up and down on its back because of its rounded spikes that your hands and feet could be placed in. Lastly, is the brown curvey slide that hurts when you hit the sides of the curves. Also on the jungle gym is a little opening at the very top where plastic leaves make a hole for the sun to poke through.

Hearing, feeling, watching, and playing are all apart of what you can do at this park. Enjoying the little things in life can get you places. Not everything has to be an extravagant place where everything is perfect. That is why this place is fun and entertaining to me.

Sentence Fluency/Conventions: 2

3-3-3-2

Sentences occasionally vary in length and structure in this response about a local park. Phrasing occasionally sounds natural. Fragments sometimes confuse the reader. Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling errors may distract the reader.

Do you have a special place that's interesting to you ? Well, I do and it is one of the greatest places to go swimming and fishing in the summer and if you haven't figured what my special place is yet it is the lake.

First of all the lake is about 3 miles from my house so I can go there whenever I feel like it, but its takes a lot of hard work to get there because the way there is uphill . Getting there can be fun too, because while going there you can see lots of cool stuff like deer, birds, and other wild animals.

Second of all when you get there your nose is immediittly invaded by a rush of smells. Some of the things you smell are all the wild flowers and the tantilizing smell of people grilling delicious food.

Next, the lake is a very fun place to go fishing at. No matter what kind of day it is you can always catch something. Whether its stormy or sunny it is the perfect place to go fishing.

Finally, the lake is fun to explore. One time me and my friends found an underwater tunnel. Another time I found a \$200 divers watch.

All in all you can see why the lake is my special place. From the tantalizing smells to the the watch I found ,this lake is very special to me.

Sentence Fluency/Conventions: 2

2-3-2-2

Sentences occasionally vary in length and structure in this response about the lake. Phrasing occasionally sounds natural. Run-ons sometimes cause confusion. Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling errors may distract the reader.

The place I will like to talk about and that interests me is Mexico the reason that is because half my family and friends are there.

The sights that I see when I am there is at night pretty lights shining down from the city, see eating playing music making music making paintings of people, in the morning you hear the rooster when you wake up smell of breakfast see the humidity from the morning the nice hot breeze.

The sound in the morning at night are peaceful the sounds of people making music playing music in the city the rooster calling, people's laughter going to the river pool the sounds of cold misty water splashing to get away from the hot sunlight.

The taste of hot good fresh meat, sweets and spices linger in your mouth and chew away and the fresh cold coke that is sweat freshening you up to prepare from the heat. You taste nothing but good awesome tasting food you can't refuse to eat.

Textures walking in the sand with bare feet feeling the heat from the sun beaming down into it. Feeling of hot sidewalks bricks all over the houses buildings store you name it hard and solid.

The feeling that come to mind are freedom having fun smiles hot and cold out of the water or in the water nice and fresh feeling like a new person like you were just born a new baby being happy to be with family and friends being somewhere that makes you happy and interested seeing nice big old buildings are nice and fun to explore.

All the places you can see all the sights you can adventure in the desert in the city all over on the sidewalks meeting new people seeing new faces seeing maybe people that are famous to Mexico singer actress someone you could enjoy meeting.

Going to the city finding new fashion's different types of cars or finding a new style finding new things you never imagine they would ever make of never new exits.

Everybody has a different world they can go to. How it feels? The way it looks. What you can do. How it makes you respond. what wakes you up at night. How you think. What you are trying to explain. The way you work is all up there in the deep road of dreams and thought in a persons head.

Well it comes at me in little details. Repeated dreams, reoccurring emotions. Insecurity, silence, various different places. In it I feel insecure, left alone, random, not at all times sometimes I am happy not insecure or lonely. over the periods of time your dream reveal your insecurities and your only thoughts. but also your thoughts and happiness.

How I see it. It always fuzzy. It's hard to tell who i'm with. What i'm doing, what the purpose is? I see darkness, but there always that glimmer of light. That bring the dependence on someone make the sun and the clearness revel its self.

It has no smell but I imagine it to smell like dust an ashes. It would be like winds of disasters. Sounds of sadness, groans, moans, crying, cold, shivers. But when it does clear up. The sun shines bring out the wind of ocean breezes. An the cheers for love and for the clearance of poverty.

A world in my head, of dreams' an thoughts. Wonders of the human mind of persons life in the world of many worlds. Deep in there line of thought that one might or even must have. To really be called a human but in any sort there's the goods and the bads. Sight or line of thought.

Sentence Fluency/Conventions: 1

1-1-2-1

In this response, sentences seldom vary in length and structure. Phrasing sounds awkward and unnatural. Fragments and run-ons cause confusion. Numerous grammar, usage, and punctuation errors throughout the response distract the reader.